

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

*Please cancel claims 15 and 20 without prejudice.*

*Please amend the claims as follows:*

1. (Currently amended) A method, comprising:  
receiving requirements for a plurality of modules;  
determining an inter-module dependency tree, the inter-module dependency tree  
being based on the requirements; and  
modifying a module function in accordance with the inter-module dependency  
tree.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising associating a configuration  
parameter with an inter-module dependency in said inter-module dependency tree.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising storing a default value for a  
configuration parameter.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said determining an inter-module  
dependency tree comprises associating a module command with an inter-module  
dependency.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein associating a module command with  
an inter-module dependency comprises determining a phase for a command of a  
module.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said modifying a module function comprises determining a command script based on a command association with an inter-module dependency.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said modifying a module function comprises associating a command of one module with a command of another module based upon an inter-module dependency.
8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein associating a command of one module with a command of another module comprises associating a command of one module with a command of another module based upon a phase identification.
9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~wherein said modifying a module function comprises initializing a module function further comprising initializing a module using the inter-module dependency tree.~~
10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said modifying a module function comprises reconfiguring a module function.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said modifying a module function comprises shutting down a module function.
12. (Currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:  
~~a system controller, the system controller comprising circuitry to store an inter-module dependency tree, the inter-module dependency tree being based on requirements for a plurality of modules, the system controller to~~

modify a module function in accordance with the inter-module dependency tree; and

a configuration manager coupled to said system controller.

13. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising a current configuration database coupled to said configuration manager, the current configuration database containing one or more configurations for the plurality of modules that are not retained when the apparatus is initialized.
14. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising a permanent configuration database coupled to said configuration manager via a command line interface, the permanent configuration database containing one or more configurations that are retained when the system is initialized.
15. (Cancelled)
16. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said system controller further comprises circuitry to modify a module function in accordance with an inter-module dependency tree.
17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said configuration manager comprises circuitry to receive a configuration parameter change request.
18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said configuration manager comprises circuitry to modify a module function in accordance with a configuration parameter change request.

19. (Currently amended) A system, comprising:
  - a network component comprising a system controller coupled to a configuration manager; and  
a component coupled with the system controller to store an inter-module dependency tree, the inter-module dependency tree being based on requirements for a plurality of modules, the system controller to modify a module function in accordance with the inter-module dependency tree;  
and  
a station coupled to said network component.
20. (Cancelled)
21. (Currently amended) The system of claim 19, wherein said node further comprises a permanent configuration parameter database coupled to the configuration manager via a command line interface, the permanent configuration database containing one or more configurations that are maintained when the system is rebooted.
22. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein said station comprises a server to forward a transaction via said network component.
23. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein said station comprises a management workstation to configure said network component.

24. (Currently amended) A machine-readable medium containing instructions, which when executed by a machine, cause said machine to perform operations, comprising:
- receiving requirements for a plurality of modules;
- determining an inter-module dependency tree, the inter-module dependency tree being based on the requirements; and
- modifying a module function in accordance with the inter-module dependency tree.
25. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 24 wherein said determining an inter-module dependency tree comprises associating a module command with an inter-module dependency.
26. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 24 wherein said modifying a module function comprises determining a command script based on a command association with an inter-module dependency.
27. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 24 wherein said modifying a module function comprises associating a command of one module with a command of another module based upon an inter-module dependency.
28. (Currently amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 24 ~~wherein said modifying a module function comprises initializing a module function further comprising initializing a module using the inter-module dependency tree.~~

29. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 24 wherein said modifying a module function comprises reconfiguring a module function.
30. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 24 wherein said modifying a module function comprises shutting down a module function.